

CONCEPT II

BATHS | KITCHENS | TILES

Thank you for purchasing your tile and stone products from Concept II. With over 30 years of experience, we have received a variety of questions from clients on how to care for your new tile. Eventually, you will have these same questions, so we compiled a quick overview to help guide you.

We know that online solutions often seem to be the simplest, and best advice. However, keep in mind that there is a lot of bad information out there that can actually cause more harm to your tile than good. Although home remedies that consist of lemon juice, baking soda or vinegar are promoted as being natural cleaners that will make grout look new again, beware that these tend to be too harsh to use on your tile. These are not PH neutral and can undo the properties of the sealers that were possibly applied to your tile, added to/or included in the grout. Utilizing these solutions will produce short-term results that will actually cause harm in the long run.

Whether you have purchased porcelain, ceramic, glass or stone, you want to use a PH neutral cleaner for every situation. With more and more studies coming out about the dangers of toxic products in our homes, it seems like there are more and more gentle, yet effective products every year.

The first and best step to cleaning floors is sweeping and/or vacuuming. If further cleaning is needed, we recommend using a steam mop. If your tile still needs cleaning beyond that, we recommend using a PH neutral cleaner. Method, which is a recognizable brand that carries a variety of products is a great solution and is available in most grocery stores. If you need something stronger beyond that, we recommend Van Hearn's "Mighty Indigo". This comes in both diluted and full strength options, both which work very well. Van Hearn also makes heavy-duty cleaners that can also be used for the even tougher cleaning jobs.

Our philosophy for cleaning tile and grout is simple; always use the mildest cleaner that will get the job done, and look for PH neutral on the label. Aside from that, don't forget that we are here to help. If you ever have any questions about your new purchase, feel free to contact us directly at Concept II.

Tips & Advice - Do's & Don'ts!

Do's:

Do place a small rug or mat at entryways to trap dirt and sand from normal foot traffic.

Do dust countertops, islands, vanities and floors frequently.

Do blot spills immediately to minimize permanent damage to your natural stone or tile.

Do clean surfaces by wiping with clean water, then wiping dry with a clean cloth.

Do educate your housekeepers on the use of the proper cleaning products.

Do seal all grout joints.

Don'ts:

Don't use vinegar, bleach, ammonia or other general purpose cleaners.

Don't use cleaners that contain acid such as bathroom cleaners, grout cleaners or tub and tile cleaners.

Don't use abrasive cleaners such as dry cleansers or soft cleansers.

Don't use alkaline cleaners not specially formulated for natural stone or tile.